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Monthly Report

PAR 214
31 Mar 66

SUBJECT: Roller Transport Processor (12-Inch)

TASK/PROBLEM

1. Design and fabricate a versatile self-threading photographic processor capable of handling both cut sheet and continuous webs of photographic material and adaptable to a process yielding either standard negative or reversal images. Interchange between processes to be accomplished with a minimum of effort.

DISCUSSION

2. Polyethylene-surfaced rollers were installed in the processor and checked out by the contractor. During the checkout, two rolls of 70mm film, Type 8430, were printed by the customer's production staff and processed on the RT-12R Processor. These rolls, one 500 feet long, and the other 200 feet long, were run side by side through the processor, which was being operated in the reversal mode for this test. This run demonstrated that the RT-12R Processor is capable of producing a quality product, free of emulsion damage caused by the material used to construct the rollers.

3. A few random areas of emulsion damage were attributed to dirt in the equipment or inadequate hardening or both. Inadequate hardening may have been caused by the fixer used to conduct these tests. The recommended fixer for operation of the equipment in the reversal mode

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is [redacted] Versamat Fixer, Type A.

4. The dichromate bleach racks have been rebuilt using epoxy-fiberglass side plates and steel drive gears. The ability of the racks to withstand the corrosive action of the dichromate bleach is now considered to be adequate. Contamination of dichromate bleach was found to be caused by leakage through a three-way valve which had been assembled incorrectly and set in the wrong position. This condition was corrected and the leakage eliminated.

5. Two air-activated, end-of-roll sensing switches located at the feed end of the processor were replaced by switches of more rugged design and construction.

PLANNED ACTIVITY

6. No further activity is anticipated on this PAR.